

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 17 JULY 2005

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za), on packet bulletin boards and on Echolink from Chris, ZS6FCS. SARLnews is still awaiting offers for the relaying of the bulletins on 3 695 kHz SSB. Relaying not be done by the same person every week, if there are more than one, turns can be taken which will make life easier. Here is an opportunity to render a service to your fellow radio amateurs. Please submit your offers to George, ZS6NE, whose email address is [gth@absamail.co.za](mailto:gth@absamail.co.za).

In the news today:

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE CONFIRMS THE SARL AS THE NATIONAL BODY

TAKING PART IN RALLIES REQUIRES REGISTRATION WITH SARL

LEARN ALL ABOUT LIGHTNING PROTECTION AT THE SARL RTA OPEN DAY

Stay tuned for more detail on these and other news items. Visit the SARL Web site or call the SARL office, which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

SARLNews depends on clubs and individuals for news of interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution reaches SARLNews is to place it in the correct place on web site of the SARL, which is [www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp) not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. There is no guarantee that your contribution will reach SARLNews, or be included in a bulletin, if it is sent in any other way or later than Thursday evenings. It will also be appreciated if you could do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The news follows in detail.

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE CONFIRMS THE SARL AS THE NATIONAL BODY

In Government Gazette of 24 June, which as just been received by the SARL, the Minister of Communication confirms the appointment of the SARL as the national body. The minister states: "I, Dr Ivy Matsepe-Casaburi, Minister of Communications, in terms of the Chapter 3 clause 3 c of the amended Radio Regulations as gazetted in the Government Gazette no 27 258, published on 4 February 2005 hereby, approve the recognition of the South African Radio

League as a national body permitted to issue Harmonised Amateur Radio Certificates certifying that a candidate has advanced knowledge of theoretical and practical aspects of amateur radio.”

#### TAKING PART IN RALLIES REQUIRES REGISTRATION WITH SARL

The recent amendments to the radio regulations stipulate that communications provided for rallies and other sporting events require prior registration. Regulation B3 1c states that to practice emergency and event related communication, by providing communication for cycle, motor, marathon rallies and general community service specially of national interest, provided that the station engaged in the practice, be registered with the national body approved by the Minister in the Republic of South Africa, and be a holder of the appropriate class licence, for the frequency used. To register a special event the following details should be submitted to the SARL two weeks prior to the event: Name and call sign and address of the Club or individual radio amateur arranging the event; affiliation status with the SARL, or membership status in the case of an individual person coordinating the event and a list of radio amateurs participating in the event, their names, telephone numbers, call signs and membership status. A form is available on the SARL web at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) in PDF format. Print the form and fax it to 011 675 2793. The completed form will be published on the web for information.

#### LEARN ALL ABOUT LIGHTNING PROTECTION AT THE SARL RTA OPEN DAY

You can learn all about how to protect your equipment against lightning at the SARL Radio Technology in Action open day on 20 August. It will be held at the SARL National Amateur Radio Centre. Warren Botten of Clearline will deliver a paper entitled “Practical Lightning Protection Principles. Clearline is also sponsoring a home-theatre protection unit valued at R2450 as one of the attendance prizes. The Clearline’s Home Theatre protection system features 10 surge protected sockets with premium power filtration and antenna and satellite protection. No amateur radio station can do without this! The RTA open day starts at 08:30 with a flea market followed by a three steam lecture programme starting at 10.00. The attendance prizes will be drawn at the final plenary session at approx 15:30. To qualify for any of the prizes the lucky winners must be present at the time of the draw. There is an entry charge of R20 per person which includes entry into the attendance prizes draw. Visit the SARL web at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) for details.

#### BOLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 40 METRE CONTEST

On Sunday 24 July 2005, the Boland Amateur Radio Club will host the BARC 40 Metre Contest. It is a phone only contest on the 40 metre band, running from 13:00 to 16:00 UTC. The following rules are applicable: The contest is open to all radio amateurs in Southern Africa. Only wire antennas and a maximum output of 100 watt may be used. The exchange is the call sign, RS and serial number starting with 001. One (1) point may be claimed for each contact made

with a station in Southern Africa (no matter which country). The Boland ARC club station, ZS1BAK, will be activated and a contact with this station counts 5 (five points), only one contact is allowed. Log sheets must be submitted within 14 days after the contest and can be sent by e-mail to [zs1bak@mailbox.co.za](mailto:zs1bak@mailbox.co.za) or by snail mail to BARK, PO Box 2105, Dennesig, 7601. A certificate will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the competition.

#### NEW REPEATER BY MIDLANDS ARC

The Midlands Amateur Radio Club has installed a new repeater which will cover the Southern Drakensberg region. This repeater operates on a frequency of 145,775 MHz, and is situated near Underberg up in the mountains. There is no CTCSS tone required to access it and all visitors to the region are encouraged to make use of the good coverage which it provides in and around the Underberg/Sani Pass areas. There is also fair coverage along the R617 (the PMB to Underberg road). Local hams monitor this repeater most of every day, and are available to provide assistance or else simply to rag-chew! Welcome, fellow hams.

#### BORDER RADIO CLUB AGM

The Border Radio Club in East London will be holding its AGM on the 23rd July 2005 at 12:30 for 13:00. The venue will be at the Marine Ski boat club in Gonubie. After the meeting they will hold a Swop shop followed by a Bring and Braai. Bring along all your goodies you wish to swop.....All are welcome.

#### PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

What follows has been obtained from the report of Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, on the ARRL web.

The big patch of sunspots that energized activity less than two weeks ago has drifted around the edge of the sun. The result has been falling daily sunspot numbers and solar flux. The average daily sunspot number dropped a little more than 63 points to 91.3. At the same time, geomagnetic disturbances increased.

On July 10 a coronal mass ejection (CME) from a day earlier hit Earth, and caused a geomagnetic storm. The same day it hit, the planetary A index jumped to 47, and another CME began its journey from the sun. As a result, the planetary A index went back up—this time to 48 on July 12. All this as sunspot numbers and solar flux dropped.

Solar activity is currently increasing, but only from some sunspots that are drifting from view. They may deliver an indirect hit to Earth in the next couple of days. The interplanetary magnetic field, or IMF, is pointing south, which means Earth is vulnerable. Currently the planetary A indices for Friday through Monday, July 15-18, are predicted to be 25, 25, 20 and 12.

Sunspot numbers and solar flux should reach a short-term minimum around July 16-19, and another maximum around August 2-5.

Sunspot numbers for July 7 through 13 were 149, 111, 126, 78, 68, 52 and 55, with a mean of 91.3.

#### DIARY OF EVENTS

24 July - Boland ARC 40-metre Contest; 31 July - Closing date for Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year nominations; 20 August - RTA Open day at the NARC.

The SARL invites you to listen today at 10:00 to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 17 565, 7 205, and 7 082 kHz and many 2 m repeaters in different areas. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz.

Telkom and Sentech sponsor ARMI.

This then brings us to the end of today's bulletin, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and read by .....from..... as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL and thank you for having joined us. Also many thanks to those persons who supply news for our bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

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